Today many herald cyberspace as the vehicle that will transform civilization by creating community, breaking down prejudices, revolutionizing business, and even triggering a religious revival. Some believe the disembodied existence of the digital age creates a realm of infinite possibilities and releases us from the limitations of the body. Others engage in technoshamanism – using the Internet as a realm for mystical discovery and magical powers. Still others seek community through a new global village connected by computer screens.

But in a world of flames (textual attacks), virtual rape, and bots (computer programs that impersonate people), these breathless claims should be probed with a clear head. Doug Groothuis proves a sound guide as he examines the effects of these new technologies on our souls and our society. Neither a Luddite nor a digitopian, he points the way forward in what can be a confusing and sometimes seductive new environment.

Features:

— First critique of cyberspace from a Christian perspective
— Provides tools for a wise use of the Internet from a biblically based understanding
— Contains many examples and anecdotes to illustrate the principles
— Puts forward a strong defense for the Christian faith in contrast to the competing worldviews associated with cyberspace

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Critical Acclaim

"Doug Groothuis is known for his consistently dependable scholarship, concise thinking, and balanced understanding. In THE SOUL AND CYBERSPACE, he has issued a bold and stimulating challenge to think rightly (and to think CHRISTIANLY) about the technologies of 'cyberspace,' especially regarding the potent and often detrimental effect these technologies can have on the human soul and modern culture. Listen and learn from him!"

— Ron Rhodes
Executive Director
Reasoning from the Scriptures Ministries

"This book is a much-needed examination of the net on a spiritual level."

— Jaron Lanier
Virtual reality pioneer

"Groothuis is a wonderful guide for us to make sense of cyberspace. His book can keep us on track in what can be a vast wasteland. I recommend it to every thoughtful reader."

— Bob Briner
Author of Roaring Lambs

"Groothuis cogently raises some very troubling questions about the nature and impact of cyberspace, which may indeed be the first major popular arena for postmodernism."

— Quentin Schultze
Author of Internet for Christian